

Planning and Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC)

PPAC functions as the court system's long-range planning committee and consists of the chief justice of the Supreme Court as the Chair, one judge of the Court of Appeals, 13 circuit court judges, one municipal judge, two persons selected by the Board of Governors of the State Bar of Wisconsin and the following persons appointed by the chief justice: three non-lawyers (one of whom shall be an elected county official), one public defender, one court administrator, one prosecutor, one clerk of circuit court and one court commissioner.

Effective Justice Strategies Subcommittee

Effective Justice Strategies (EJS) Research Project Update:

On January 15, 2010, the Wisconsin Director of State Courts Office (DSCO) contracted with the National Center for State Courts (NCSC) to conduct the "Enhancing Public Safety: Effective Justice Strategies" research project. This project is supported by grants from the State Justice Institute and former JEHT Foundation. The scope of this project is to conduct research that will identify court centered evidence-based strategies that enhance public safety, reduce recidivism and address criminal and addictive behaviors and develop recommendations related to the court systems role in fostering state-wide support and replication of these strategies. Specifically, conduct research and develop recommendations centered on the questions of:

- What is currently being done in Wisconsin Courts?
- What works and how do we measure it?
- What is the statewide strategy and plan of action?

Tasks completed to date:

- Kick-off meeting in February 2010 and Project Plan developed.
- Review of PPAC EJS survey conducted in 2006 that created inventory of alternative court programming/practices throughout WI (Drug courts, criminal justice councils, risk assessment, day report, etc).
- Letter from Chief Justice and DSC sent to all Chief Judges, DCA's (district court administrators), and Presiding Judges explaining the research project and their expected involvement in completing surveys, providing information and meeting with NCSC representatives on site visits.
- April 1, state survey rolled out to all Chief Judges, DCA's and presiding judges updating the 2006 PPAC EJS inventory information. 100% response rate by mid-July.
- NCSC attended the PPAC EJS meeting in May 6 and presented project plan and gathered feedback on information gathering process from subcommittee members.
- NCSC attended the state AIM pilot project meeting to gather info and meet pilot reps.
- NCSC conducted first two site visits on May 3-6 in Dane and Iowa counties and met with judges, CJCC members, and others on local justice system practices and programming.
- The development of a survey specific to the AIM pilot for AIM judges to complete began in July.

Futures tasks:

- NCSC Site visits in the following counties scheduled for August, September, October and November: Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Rock, Outagamie, Brown, Winnebago, Marathon, Portage, Bayfield, Ashland, Eau Claire, La Crosse, St. Croix.
- Roll-out of AIM judge survey mid-August.
- Conduct interviews and/or a second follow-up survey to gather additional information from survey #1 on programs and practices throughout the courts.
- Conduct research (national and state level) on criminal justice coordinating councils at both the local (county) level and state level.
- Analyze all information gathered and develop recommendations for PPAC, PPAC EJS and Director of State Courts Office.

Note: This project is on a 2-year timeline which began January 2010.

Assess, Inform and Measure (AIM) Pilot Project Update:

- The following counties are now piloting and collecting data for the AIM pilot process: La Crosse, Eau Claire, Iowa, Marathon, Milwaukee, Dane, Bayfield
- As noted in the NCSC research project, a survey will be distributed to all of the AIM judges in the next few weeks gathering their feedback on the value and usefulness of the information they are receiving in an AIM report and their understanding and opinion of the project to date.
- Court Operations and CCAP staff are working to improve the AIM software and data collection system. Measuring recidivism and other outcomes are critical to the project and efforts are being made to create reports for the AIM software to do this in the most effective manner.
- Mary Moyer, the AIM Program Specialist in Court Operations, continues to work directly with the pilot counties on improving their local projects and collecting data. Ms. Moyer frequently conducts site visits to each county to provide technical assistance and gather information to improve the project.
- When the AIM pilot effort began in 2006, an informal core steering group was established to assist in guiding the pilots and making policy and procedural decisions related to the project. This core steering group has been formalized and now consists of the following members: Judge Carl Ashley (Milwaukee), Judge Sarah O'Brien (Dane), Scott Johnson (DCA), Pat Brummond (DCA), Tony Streveler (DOC), Mike Tobin (SPD), John Chisholm (Mke County DA), Kristi Waits (OJA), Jane Klekamp (La Crosse Justice Sanctions Coordinator), Mary Moyer (OCO staff), Erin Slattengren (OCO staff).

For questions or more information on any of these projects, please contact Erin Slattengren at erin.slattengren@wicourts.gov or 608-261-0684.